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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

TERRI MOORE,

Plaintiff,

VS.

BJ'S RESTAURANTS OPERATIONS COMPANY,

Defendant.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Defendant BJ's Restaurant Operations Company ("Defendant"), by and through its counsel of record, BACKUS, CARRANZA & BURDEN, hereby files this instant notice of removal of this action to the United States District Court for the District of Nevada, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446, and in support thereof, states as follows:

I.

FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

1. Plaintiff TERRI MOORE (“Plaintiff”) is and was a resident of the State of Nevada; and is therefore a citizen of Nevada for purposes of diversity. *See* Complaint filed in the Eighth Judicial District Court for Clark County, Nevada, at ¶1, attached as Exhibit A.

2. Defendant BJ's Restaurant Operations Company is a company organized, existing,

and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California, with its headquarters and principal place of business in the State of California, and is therefore a citizen of California for purposes of diversity.

3. Plaintiff's Complaint was filed in the Eighth Judicial District Court for Clark County, Nevada on or about September 22, 2020. *See Exhibit A.*

4. The Summons and Complaint were served on Defendant on September 23, 2020.
See Summons, attached as Exhibit B and Affidavit of Service, attached as Exhibit C.

5. Plaintiff's action alleges that on or about September 8, 2019, she slipped on a wet substance at the women's restroom at the BJ's Restaurant located at 888 Evergold Dr., Henderson, Nevada and sustained injuries. *See* Exhibit A at ¶¶1-5. Plaintiff asserts a cause of action for negligence against Defendant. *Id.* at ¶¶5-12.

6. In her Complaint, Plaintiff seeks general and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$50,000.00, special damages in an amount in excess of \$50,000.00, for costs of medical care, treatment and other expenses incurred once they are fully ascertained, for loss of enjoyment of life, for reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit incurred. *Id.* at 4:12-21.

7. On October 21, 2020, Plaintiff served her initial list of witnesses and exhibits pursuant to NRCP 16.1 in which she disclosed that her damages are \$1,988,681.20. *See* Plaintiff's Initial List of Witnesses and Exhibits at 7:1-20, attached hereto as Exhibit D.

II. **DIVERSITY JURISDICTION**

8. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1332(a), a federal district court “shall have original jurisdiction of all civil actions where the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000” and the controversy is between “citizens of different states.” *See* 28 § U.S.C. 1332(a).

9. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1), this case may be removed to the United States District Court for the District of Nevada because there is complete diversity of citizenship between

1 Plaintiff and Defendant, and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.

2 10. There is complete diversity in this matter as Plaintiff is a citizen of Nevada and
3 Defendant is a citizen of California.

4 11. The requisite amount in controversy under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) is also met as
5 Plaintiff claims that she is seeking over \$50,000.00 in general damages and over \$50,000 in
6 special damages. Further, her disclosed damages are **\$1,988,681.20**. Accordingly, this Court has
7 diversity jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).

8 12. Defendant respectfully requests this matter be removed to the United States District
9 Court for the District of Nevada.

10 **III.**
11 **THE PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR REMOVAL HAVE BEEN SATISFIED**

12 13. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b)(1) states: “The notice of removal of a civil action or
14 proceeding shall be filed within 30 days after the receipt by the defendant, through service or
15 otherwise, of a copy of the initial pleading setting forth the claim for relief upon which such action
16 or proceeding is based, or within 30 days after the service of summons upon the defendant if such
17 initial pleading has then been filed in court and is not required to be served on the defendant,
whichever period is shorter.”

18 14. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b)(3) states: “Except as provided in subsection (c), if the case
19 stated by the initial pleading is not removable, a notice of removal may be filed within thirty days
20 after receipt by the defendant, through service or otherwise, of a copy of an amended pleading,
21 motion, order or other paper from which it may first be ascertained that the case is one which is or
22 has become removable.”

23 15. In addition, 28 U.S.C. § 1446(c)(2)(A)(ii) provides that for removal based on
24 diversity jurisdiction, the sum demanded in good faith in the initial pleading shall be deemed to be
25 the amount in controversy except when the initial pleading seeks a monetary judgment, but the

1 State practice, such as in Nevada, either does not permit demand for a specific sum or permits
2 recovery of damages in excess of the amount demanded.” *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1446(c)(2)(A)(ii).

3 16. This instant Notice for Removal is timely in that it is filed within 30 days of
4 receiving a copy of Plaintiff’s Complaint on September 23, 2020.

5 17. This Court has original jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action, pursuant
6 to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, as there is complete diversity between the parties and there is more than
7 \$75,000 in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs.

8 18. Pursuant to the 28 U.S.C. § 1441, this action is one which may be removed to this
9 Court.

10 19. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(c)(1), the date for this removal is not more than one
11 year after the September 22, 2020 commencement of the state court action.

12 20. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b)(2)(A), there is only one defendant in this case who
13 filed this instant notice of removal.

14 21. A true and correct copy of this Notice of Removal will be filed with the Clerk for
15 the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada.

16 22. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446, a true and correct copy of all process, pleadings, and
17 orders served upon Defendant in the state court are attached hereto. *See* Complaint attached as
18 Exhibit A, Summons attached as Exhibit B, Affidavit of Service attached as Exhibit C, Plaintiff’s
19 Initial List of Witnesses and Exhibits attached as Exhibit D, Defendant’s Answer attached as
20 Exhibit E, Defendant’s Demand for Jury Trial attached as Exhibit F, and Defendant’s Initial
21 Appearance Fee Disclosure attached as Exhibit G.

22 23. Therefore, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446, Defendant is entitled to
23 remove this action to this Court.

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PRAYER

2 24. WHEREFORE, Defendant prays that the above-entitled action be removed from
3 the Eighth Judicial District Court in and for Clark County, Nevada.

4 DATED this 22nd day of October, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

BACKUS, CARRANZA & BURDEN

By: /s/ Jack P. Burden

Jack P. Burden, Esq.

Xiao Wen Jin, Esq.

3050 South Durango Drive

Las Vegas, NV 89117

Attnorneys for Defendant

BJ's Restaurant Operations Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I am a resident of and employed in Clark County, Nevada. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. My business address is: 3050 South Durango Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89117.

On October 22, 2020, I served this document on the parties listed on the attached service list via one or more of the methods of service described below as indicated next to the name of the served individual or entity by a checked box:

VIA U.S. MAIL: by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid, in the United States mail at Las Vegas, Nevada. I am "readily familiar" with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence by mailing. Under that practice, it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day with postage fully prepaid at Las Vegas, Nevada in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing an affidavit.

VIA FACSIMILE: by transmitting to a facsimile machine maintained by the attorney or the party who has filed a written consent for such manner of service.

BY PERSONAL SERVICE: by personally hand-delivering or causing to be hand delivered by such designated individual whose particular duties include delivery of such on behalf of the firm, addressed to the individual(s) listed, signed by such individual or his/her representative accepting on his/her behalf. A receipt of copy signed and dated by such an individual confirming delivery of the document will be maintained with the document and is attached.

BY E-MAIL: by transmitting a copy of the document in the format to be used for attachments to the electronic-mail address designated by the attorney or the party who has filed a written consent for such manner of service.

BY CM/ECF SYSTEM: by transmitting via the United States District Court's CM/ECF System to the following individuals for which such service is designated on the Service List.

ATTORNEYS OF RECORD	PARTIES REPRESENTED	METHOD OF SERVICE
Leslie Mark Stovall, Esq.	Plaintiff	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal service
Ross Moynihan, Esq.		<input type="checkbox"/> Email service
STOVALL & ASSOCIATES		<input type="checkbox"/> Fax service
2301 Palomino lane		<input type="checkbox"/> Mail service
Las Vegas, NV 89107		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic Means
T: 702.258.3034 - F: 702.258.0093		
Court@lesstovall.com		

I declare that under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Nevada that the above is true and correct. I further declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.

/s/ Anne Raymundo

An employee of BACKUS, CARRANZA & BURDEN